

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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SUBJECT: PEREZ STATE VISIT: PUBLIC STATEMENTS --
PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND MRS. VANCE'S TOAST

REF: STATE 126852

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PROPOSED ARRIVAL STATEMENT
FOR PRESIDENT CARTER:

2. QUOTE MR. PRESIDENT, MRS. PEREZ -- BIENVENIDOS A
WASHINGTON. WE WELCOME YOU WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION.
YOU ARE THE FIRST SOUTH AMERICAN CHIEF OF STATE, MR.
PRESIDENT, TO VISIT THE U.S. DURING MY ADMINISTRATION. I
ATTACH A SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO YOUR VISIT FOR A NUMBER
OF REASONS. I AM SEEKING TO STRENGTHEN THE TIES OF
FRIENDSHIP AND DEVELOP CLOSE CONSULTATION BETWEEN MY
ADMINISTRATION AND THE NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF LATIN
AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. VENEZUELA IS A PARTICULARLY
APPROPRIATE NATION FOR SUCH FRIENDSHIP AND CONSULTATION.
YOU COME, MR. PRESIDENT, AS THE FREELY ELECTED LEADER
OF YOUR PEOPLE AND YOU GOVERN AN OPEN AND DEMOCRATIC
SOCIETY. VENEZUELA, LIKE THE U.S., HAS CONFIDENCE
IN AND HOLDS DEAR THE BELIEF THAT DEMOCRACY IS THE
BEST WAY FOR PEOPLE TO GOVERN THEMSELVES IN LIBERTY

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AND FREEDOM. WE IN THE U.S. REMEMBER WITH SPECIAL
REVERENCE THE FACT THAT IN LATIN AMERICA ONE OF THE
GREATEST PROPONENTS OF FREEDOM AND LIBERTY WAS SIMON
BOLIVAR, A VENEZUELAN, A MAN WHO DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO
THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY FOR OTHERS.

3. WE LIVE IN A COMPLICATED WORLD--A WORLD FULL OF

COMPLEX AND INTERRELATED ISSUES. WE LIVE ALSO IN A WORLD IN WHICH WE ARE ALL INTERDEPENDENT. VENEZUELA RECOGNIZES THIS INTERDEPENDENCE, AND ITS FOREIGN POLICY IS CLEARLY COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE OUR COMMON PROBLEMS.

4. TODAY WE BEGIN A PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSION IN WHICH TOGETHER WE CAN STRENGTHEN OUR COMMON VIEWS, SEEK OTHER AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND LEARN TO BETTER UNDER-STAND AND ACCOMMODATE OUR DIFFERENCES.

5. I AM LOOKING FORWARD, MR. PRESIDENT, TO TALKING WITH YOU ABOUT THE MANY ISSUES AND MANY PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT US ALL. I VALUE YOUR VIEWS AND YOUR COUNSEL SINCE YOU COME NOT JUST AS AN EMISSARY OF VENEZUELA, BUT AS A VIGOROUS AND INDEPENDENT DEFENDER OF THE INTERESTS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE THIRD WORLD. YOU ARE ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED AND FORMIDABLE LEADERS IN THE WORLD TODAY.

6. MY WIFE HAS TOLD ME IN GREAT DETAIL OF HER RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU AND WITH YOUR WIFE. SHE ALSO TOLD ME ABOUT THE MOST GENEROUS HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO HER DURING HER VISIT TO VENEZUELA. LET ME ASSURE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO MAKE YOUR VISIT TO THIS COUNTRY AS PLEASANT, USEFUL AND MEMORABLE AS POSSIBLE.

7. YOUR VISIT, MR. PRESIDENT, HOLDS GREAT PROMISE.
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ABOVE ALL, WE WISH IT TO BE A SYMBOL OF THE CLOSE AND HARMONIOUS RELATIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN TWO DEMOCRATIC AMERICAN REPUBLICS. SENOR PRESIDENTE, ESTA EN SU CASA. UNQUOTE

8. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PROPOSED TOAST FOR MRS. VANCE AT HER LUNCHEON FOR MRS. PEREZ:

9. QUOTE MRS. PEREZ, IT IS A GENUINE PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU HERE WITH US AND TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN THE GENEROUS AND WARM HOSPITALITY WHICH YOU AND PRESIDENT PEREZ EXTENDED TO MRS. CARTER AND MYSELF DURING OUR VISIT TO CARACAS JUST THREE SHORT WEEKS AGO. I WAS TRULY IMPRESSED BY THE DYNAMISM OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL CITY AND NATION, BY THE PROGRESS I SAW. HOWEVER, I WAS EVEN MORE IMPRESSED BY THE DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM, AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH CHARACTERIZE VENEZUELA. YOUR NATION IS A CLEAR EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD THAT DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT INCOMPATIBLE WITH RAPID ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

10. I WAS TAKEN BY YOUR HUSBAND'S GOVERNMENT'S COMMIT-
MENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PROGRESS FOR ALL VENEZUELAN.
THREE INSTITUTIONS IN PARTICULAR STOOD OUT. FIRST
THE CHILDRENS FOUNDATION WHICH YOU SO ABLY LEAD, AND
WHICH CONCENTRATES ITS ATTENTION ON CHILDREN UNDER THE
AGE OF FIVE AND THEIR FAMILIES. THIS FOUNDATION
HAS WORKED OUT A TRULY INNOVATIVE SYSTEM OF DAY CARE
CENTERS FOR WORKING MOTHERS WITH PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.
THE SECOND INSTITUTION WHICH IMPRESSED ME WAS FUNDACOMUN,
WHICH PROMOTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL SUPPORT.
WORKING WITH THE CHILDRENS FOUNDATION, FUNDACOMUN HAS DONE
MUCH TO UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF MANY VENEZUELAN.
THE THIRD PROGRAM WHICH I FOUND FASCINATING IS THE GRAND
MARSHAL OF AYACUCHO FOUNDATION WHICH, IN THE LAST THREE
YEARS, HAS PROVIDED UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WELL OVER
TEN THOUSAND VENEZUELAN WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR
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EDUCATIONS. IT HAS BEEN OUR PLEASURE IN THE UNITED
STATES TO WELCOME OVER 4,000 OF THESE STUDENTS. ONE
OF MY HUSBAND'S PRECEDESSORS, HENRY CLAY, HAD THE FORE-
SIGHT TO RECOGNIZE THE STRUGGLING VENEZUELAN REPUBLIC
BEFORE ANY OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES IN OTHER FOREIGN OFFICES
AROUND THE WORLD WERE CONVINCED OF THE LASTING NATURE OR
ULTIMATE OUTCOME OF THE STRUGGLE SO ABLY LED BY THAT
GREATEST OF VENEZUELAN, SIMON BOLIVAR. THUS
THE UNITED STATES WAS THE FIRST NATION FORMALLY TO
RECOGNIZE VENEZUELA. IT IS ONLY FITTING AND PROPER
THAT YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND SHOULD BE OUR FIRST
PRESIDENTIAL VISITORS FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

11. MAY I PROPOSE A TOAST TO MRS. BLANCA DE PEREZ
AND TO THE GREAT NATION WHICH SHE REPRESENTS. UNQUOTE
VAKY

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